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P. R. FINLAY Editor and Publisher HAROLD M. FINLAY Business Manager

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Thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel. Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. Isaiah 43: 1.

THE PEDDLER NUISANCE

Housewives of La Grande have a grievance against a practice from which they would gladly welcome relief. Their complaint is against the peddler and house-to-house canvasser—and relief is in their own hands.

It is the everyday lament of the housewife that after answering the doorbell ringings and knocks of persons with something to sell she has no time for doing her housework. For surcease from these interruptions and annoyances she must play possum or go shopping.

Not only the housewife suffers from the growing invasion of canvassers. The latter rob established business of its legitimate trade and curvy from the community money that would otherwise be used for its own upbuilding.

Peddlers do not render an indispensable service. They sell nothing that is not obtainable in stores, and their "bargains" are often fraudulent. Extravagant claims are part and parcel of their profession; their fly-by-night commerce holds them to no guarantee. And in this day of telephones and quick delivery the argument of accessibility does not hold.

Then, too, there is the solicitor for magazine subscriptions who is working for a scholarship. One lady remarked that judging from the age of the solicitor she thought he must be trying to secure the scholarship for his grandchildren.

For the present plethora of doorstep merchants the housewives in general are alone to blame. Without patronage they could not ply their pestiferous trade, and if the housekeepers would resolutely shut the door to the transient solicitor the nuisance would soon be abated.

FRANKLIN'S GENIUS

The 226th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin comes at a time when there is a marked revival of interest in this genius of America during the Revolutionary period. His country is rediscovering him.

The passing of generations has not dwarfed him. In fact, he seems to tower more and more over his contemporaries as the perspective of history lengthens.

This is hardly because Franklin brought the lightning down from the sky, or because he collected data on water-spouts and earthquakes, or devised a remedy for smoking chimneys, or invented bifocal spectacles, or made a clock, or had more than an average knowledge of medicine.

Nor is it due to his political services, great as they were; nor to his publishing and printing activities; nor to his having signed the Declaration of Independence.

It was the many-sidedness of Franklin, along with his humanity and his magnetism, that has projected the greatness of him down to the present time. There was nothing reactionary in his make-up, and yet he was never a radical.

Benjamin Franklin's enduring fame seems to rest upon the fact that he was so far in advance of his day and generation. He would not be lost in this modern world, nor be bewildered by it. It is in the many ways in which he differed from his contemporaries, rather than in his kinship with them, that he stands out from his time.

The principal thing that is the matter with European nations today is that Uncle Sam is unable to lend them any more money.

In Washington

Now it so happens that Byrns is a member of the bicentennial commission as well as chairman of the committee which gives it money to keep going.

A man of deep sentiment (he likes to reminisce of the days when he was a barefoot boy in the hills of Tennessee), Byrns believes wholeheartedly in the bicentennial idea. But, too, being a man who thinks this is a time for economy in government he is coolly lopped off \$175,000 from the sum the commission asked to spend the remainder of this year.

On the floor, when the bicentennial appropriation came up, a half-dozen members jumped to their feet and began firing cracks at Byrns.

HE TAKES THE CRITICISM He stood his ground bravely for a while. Gently he rebuked the indignant of Alabama for his "materialistic" views.

But the critics finally just about snowed him under. In the midst of the verbal barrage, the chair announced that his time had expired. Byrns turned as if to take his seat, but immediately there was an extension of time granted, over his feeble protest. Then

Speaking of the Weather-- by Charles Fitzhugh Talman of the U.S. Weather Bureau

About the Only Thing That a "Rain Maker" Can Really Make is Money

The "rain-maker" has hitherto enjoyed a singular immunity from the operation of laws designed to protect gullible citizens from being bamboozled. The federal food and drug act has conspicuously restricted the sale of fake nostrums; the postoffice department has warned on worthless stock; but nothing has yet been done about the charlatan who, with the aid of a few mysterious chemicals and a plausible tongue, beguiles money out of farmers' pockets in payment for showers that are the work of unaided nature.

The rain-maker enters a community where crops are perishing. He promises to produce rain within a specified time after the signing of a contract, according to which he is to receive, say, a thousand dollars an inch for whatever rainfall occurs. "No rain, no pay," he says. If the showers do not arrive on time, the farmer loses nothing. If they do, the salvation of his crops puts him in such a happy frame of mind that he cheerfully pays the bill without inquiring too narrowly into the method.

Sometimes the rain comes as promised, and sometimes not. The shrewd rain-maker will score a pretty large percentage of successes, for two reasons. In the first place, as a rule his services are not engaged until the drought has prevailed so long that its termination in the near future has become highly probable. In the second place, by keeping watch of local indications, and, also, perhaps, by taking a sly look at the official weather map, the rain-maker often can time his operations so that they will coincide with changes in atmospheric conditions upon which the occurrence of rain depends.

By virtue of his one-sided contract, the rain-maker has everything to gain and nothing to lose. The business is about the safest gamble going. And, since several American citizens have amassed considerable fortunes and have acquired wide celebrity by pretending to conjure water out of the clouds.

Some years ago the owner of a big California farm engaged to pay \$2000 for two inches of rain in ten days, provided the rain-maker would put up \$200 to be forfeited in case of failure. The offer was declined, though the conditions at the time were not unfavorable for rain, and showers to the extent of four inches actually fell within the next 48 hours.

Next—What causes red, green and yellow snow?

Wash Hillman. The new corps of officers for the Eastern Star was installed last Wednesday evening with Beryl Hutchinson acting as installing officer and Anna Knight as conducting marshal.

UNION PERSONALS By Mrs. L. Z. Terrill (Observer Correspondent) UNION (Special) — Tom Marks made the trip down to Union Friday in a sled as most of the High Valley folks are doing these days. He reports nearly four feet of snow at his place in the edge of the timber.

Mrs. George Hoffman entertained the members of the Carnation club at a delightful 1 o'clock luncheon Thursday afternoon. The afternoon was spent at bridge. Mrs. Walter Cook making the high score and Mrs. W. W. Stevens the low. Guests for the afternoon were Mrs. Tex Knight and Mrs. Stevens. Mrs. Edna Busiek was elected as a new member into the club, taking the place of Mrs. Stevens who resigned recently.

Russell Jackson, manager of the Farmers' Co-operative creamery, Walter Vogel, James Korff, C. P. Edvanson and H. J. Nielson went to Payette to confer with the general board of directors, whose monthly meeting was held on that day.

C. L. Caldwell and L. Z. Terrill left Wednesday evening for Portland on a business errand and are expected home Sunday evening. Henry Reuter, who has been attending O. B. C., came home on Wednesday and will not return to school this semester. His father, Gene Reuter, was down from Baker during the week for a visit with the family.

Mrs. Schuyler Blacker left this week for San Francisco to spend the remainder of the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Nina Wolfe. Virginia Ward, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Ward, underwent a serious appendix operation at the Protestant hospital in Baker on Friday. She is reported to be getting along nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Bennett returned from John Day Wednesday, and are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Tipper, 73-year-old farmer of Billings, Mo., recently passed the state bar examination.

Japanese Advance Over Bleak Plain



Japanese Infantry in a line that stretches miles across a frozen Manchurian plain are shown in this remarkable picture just received from the bleak eastern theater of war. Note the snow-covered mountains in the background. The troops were marching toward Manchuria to drive out a force of Chinese irregulars.

March Past Fallen Bandit Chief



Here is a grim epitome of military activities in Manchuria. Japanese infantrymen, advancing through the snow, only glance at the body of a slain Chinese bandit chieftain as they press forward in pursuit of other irregulars operating along the South Manchurian railway.

IMPROVE MODELS TO SPUR TRADE Aggressive Campaign is Undertaken in the Automobile Industry.

SALEM, Jan. 16 (AP) — The date of May 28 for the celebration of the completion of the state's new \$550,000 bridge over the Rogue river, at Gold Beach, was approved by the state highway commission, it was announced here. The date has been tentatively set by organizations in Coos and Curry counties, subject to the approval of the commission.

Members of the commission expect to attend the celebration. Governor Julius L. Meier and other state officials will be invited to the affair. The bridge was completed several weeks ago and travel is now going over the new span, considered the most beautiful in the state. Work, however, is continuing on the roads to the approaches, which have not yet been completed.

Clark Wood Says Depression has served as publicity agent for a flock of learned economists who were never heard of before.

President von Hindenburg says the German republic wants security. Well, she has treated a lot she could get back at an attractive discount.

The card battle between two Seattle old-timers to determine the poker championship would be settled in short order if either's wife held the poker.

However, arrest for Mr. Gandhi doesn't seem to mean a rest for the British.

A still explosion has us guessing. It couldn't be still if it were a still still exploding; and still, why should a still still explode?

Anyhow, China has saved her face. She couldn't lose a war she wasn't having.

Changed in Meaning Ornerly is an corruption of the word, ordinary. Through usage it has taken on a slightly different meaning.

Lunches For School Children The Stock Market

A question has been asked regarding noon day lunch for school children, and an answer was recently prepared by a recognized authority on this subject. It is as follows:

It would be better if the children could come home for a hot noon meal. However, when the lunch hour is so short that they have barely time to dash home, snatch a hasty meal and hurry back, it is undoubtedly better for them to carry a suitable lunch to school and eat it in more leisurely fashion.

"When lunches must be carried to school it is wise to purchase some kind of a vacuum bottle or container in which one warm food can be carried. This hot dish may be cocoa, milk soup, vegetable stew, macaroni and cheese, stowed in a warm or other similar easily prepared nourishing dish. In addition to a warm food the lunch should provide each of the following:

1. Milk. At least one-half pint of milk as such, or in cocoa, milk soup, etc.

2. A protein food, as cheese, cottage cheese, egg or meat. These may be served separately or in sandwiches. If a full pint of milk is used this extra protein is not so essential.

3. Bread, as bread and butter, or sandwiches.

4. Fruit or vegetables. Fruit is more easily carried and can well be used most of the time, the vegetable being served at the night meal. The fruit may be raw, such as ripe bananas, an apple, and orange, or a bunch of grapes—or in the form of a sauce. When the fruit is cooked it is wise to add a few pieces of celery, whole tomato, or lettuce to provide the desirable element of freshness in the lunch.

5. A sweet, if desired, as a cookie, a raisin sandwich, jam to eat with bread and butter, a piece of two of candy, a few peanuts or raisins. The sweet should not be overdone, merely a little top-off to the meal.

Only a few suggestive lunches can be given here.

1. Cocoa (made of milk) 1/2 to 1 pint. Peanut butter sandwiches. Ripe banana. Cookies.

2. Vegetable stew, small amount of meat, lima beans, onions, etc. Bread and butter. Milk. Red apple. Graham crackers.

3. Potato soup. Lettuce sandwiches. Baked apple. Ginger bread.

4. Stewed lima beans. Bread and butter. Milk. Ripe peaches. Cup cake.

It must be remembered that merely packing the right lunch is not sufficient. Provision must be made at school for a suitable place and the right atmosphere in which to eat it, else the meal may be as hurried and unsatisfactory as before. This usually requires some educational supervision of the lunch—a problem which should be attacked jointly by both parents and teachers.

Prices Down to Bedrock AT THE COURT RECEIVERS SALE CONNER'S Inc. Everything Must Go At Once Cost Has Been Forgotten

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Fool-Proof Road Held Only Halt To Car Accident

DETROIT, Jan. 16 (AP) — An American road builders association committee has reached the conclusion that the motoring public has no intention of slowing down and that it is up to highway engineers to build fool-proof roads.

The committee, headed by M. O. Edridge, District of Columbia assistant director of traffic, reported to the convention that "cutting down hills rounding out curves and widening of highways only tempt the insatiable thirst and its various divisions headed today's program.

But those expedients, plus lighter colored pavements to minimize the hazards of night driving, utilization of materials that will not become slippery in wet weather and raised parkways on multi-lane highways to reduce collision and headlight glare menace; were about all the committee had to offer in suggestions.

It urged close study of design, however, to seek further safety factors and creation of a research group to standardize traffic devices.

The annual election of officers for the association and its various divisions headed today's program.

Shade of Maroon Popular One In Expensive Cars

NEW YORK, Jan. 16 (AP) — A shade of maroon, which, it is said, was developed especially for King George, of England, is shown in one of the higher priced cars at this year's national automobile show here. There also are colors developed for some of the Paris designers of women's clothes—grayish blue for Paul Poiret, a brown for Worth, and a blue and vermillion for Cheruit, for the most part, colors are subdued.

Although some manufacturers have retained the flat front-end, the V-shaped is generally used. Many radiators have chrome-plated grilles, and some are recessed.

A new fender has been developed with a deep overhang, extending downward to conceal axles and springs. Fenders have been made stronger and reinforced for rigidity. On some cars they do not come in contact with the running board at all, thereby eliminating a possible source of rattles.

As the show was in progress, William J. Gottlieb, vice president of the New York Automobile club, announced that, while women comprise nearly 20 per cent of all motor vehicle operators, they are responsible for less than 7 per cent of the accidents. He based his statement on figures received from the A. A. A. national headquarters.

FAKE DOLLARS IN AUSTRALIA SYDNEY (AP)—Depreciation of Australian and British currency having made American money desirable, counterfeiters have taken advantage of the situation to pass spurious \$10 and \$20 bills in such numbers that the United States consulate was moved to issue a warning to all traders.

Seiberling Tires

FIRST GRADE QUALITY But At MAIL ORDER PRICES

Table with columns for tire size (e.g., 29 x 4.40, 29 x 4.50, 30 x 4.50, 28 x 4.75, 29 x 4.75, 29 x 5.00, 30 x 5.00, 28 x 5.25, 31 x 5.25, 28 x 5.50, 29 x 5.50, 32 x 6.00) and prices (\$4.79, \$6.97, \$7.12, \$7.85, \$8.17, \$8.45, \$8.65, \$9.10, \$9.75, \$10.30, \$10.40, \$10.95).

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